



THAILAND ROAD SAFETY MANIFESTO

The Initiative

Thailand Road Safety Manifesto is an invitation by the Thai Society for Transportation and Traffic Studies (TSTS), Thailand Accident Prevention Network, the Office of Thai Health Promotion Fund (OTHP) and the Ministry of Transport (MOT) to take concrete actions, assess results and further heighten awareness about the need to reduce road accident fatalities.

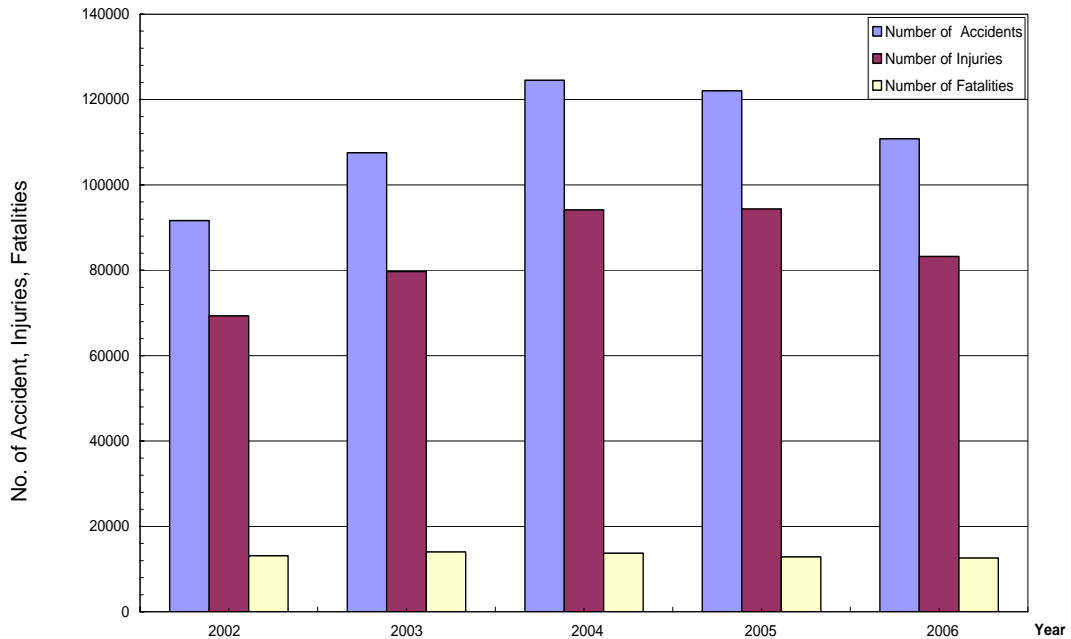
The Society 's mission is to help the country establish a safe and sustainable transport system for our people. The Society through our members is playing an important role in the country-wide effort to make our roads safer. We together with OTHP and MOT wish to afford all ' road accidents' stakeholders (companies, public/private institutions, associations) the opportunity to share good ideas and practices, so that all stakeholders can learn from each other and gain inspiration as to how the road safety situation in our country can be further improved.

In return Thailand Road Safety Manifesto offers national recognition to the companies, public/private institutions and associations that have signed up, and also makes the road safety actions they wish to carry out more visible at the National and Asian level.

Upon signing Thailand Road Safety Manifesto, you will help to build upon knowledge and to exchange good practices on road safety with the goal of cutting down the country's road fatalities by 5,000 in 5 years period, starting from 2007, from the current annual average of some 13,000 fatalities down to 8,000, by 2012 while adding the National and Asian dimension to your actions.

The Facts

For the past 5 years, 2002-2006, some 66,300 people died in road traffic accidents in Thailand or an average of 13,260 deaths per annum. Some 5.0 million people were injured, some of them severely. The economic loss resulted from traffic accidents were estimated at 200,000 million Baht, corresponding to approximately 3.1% of the country's Gross National Product.

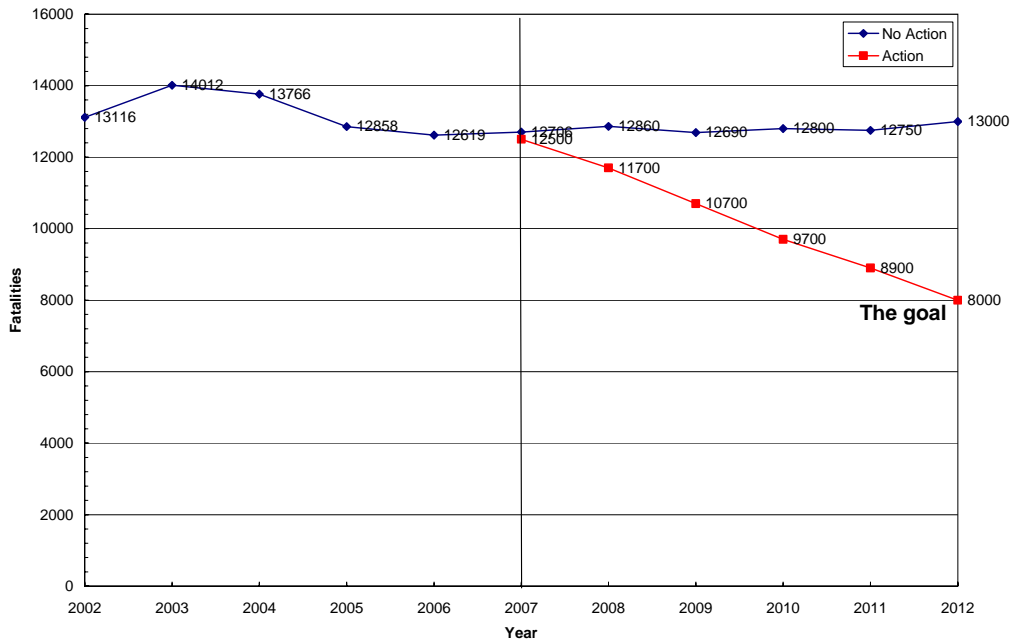


The Human Tragedy

Over 13,000 road fatalities occurs annually in our country with several hundred thousands of those injured become permanently disabled. Family of those crash victims who die suffer immeasurable grief and many have to endure economic hardship resulting from the loss of the family bread winners. For those hundred thousands families whose loved one become disabled, life after the crash is a long and seemingly endless drain on the family both emotionally and financially. And yet this human tragedy can be prevented to a large extent.



We can not and must not accept the notion that road accidents occur and people die. As a nation we must collectively do our share of stopping the killing on our roads. It is ambitious yet possible to reduce the number of road deaths in our country by 5,000 between 2007 and 2012. This is feasible by means of implementing a number of concrete measures and uniting our forces. This goal serves to mobilise all stakeholders and co-ordinate joint efforts.



A Joint Challenge

Reducing the number of road fatalities by 5,000 is a joint challenge. It can only be met if the government, its related agencies, civil society organizations and, of course, all citizens get fully involved in their respective spheres of responsibility.

The Thai government, through its 5 year Road Safety Action Programme, has listed some 14 programme of activities, whose implementation depends on the responsibility of the various government departments. Thailand Road Safety Manifesto is an appeal to all civil society organizations to participate in this joint undertaking and implement concrete measures to meet this challenge of saving ' 5,000 lives'.

